

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Previously presented): A double-metal cyanide catalyst comprising:

- a) at least one double-metal cyanide compound;
- b) at least one organic complex ligand which is not a bile acid, a bile acid salt, a bile acid ester or a bile acid amide; and
- c) at least one bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, further comprising water and/or one or more water soluble metal salts.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the double-metal cyanide compound is zinc hexacyanocobaltate (III).

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the organic complex ligand comprises an alcohol, aldehydes, ketone, ether, ester, amide, urea, nitrile, sulfide and/or a mixture thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the organic complex ligand is tert-butanol.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide is

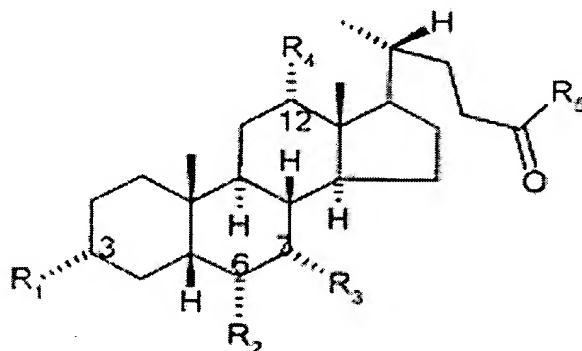
present in an amount of from about 1 to about 80 wt.%, based on the amount of finished double-metal cyanide catalyst.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 40 wt.%, based on the amount of finished double-metal cyanide catalyst.

Claim 19 (Previously presented): A double-metal cyanide catalyst comprising:

- a) at least one double-metal cyanide compound;
- b) at least one organic complex ligand which is not a bile acid, a bile acid salt, a bile acid ester or a bile acid amide; and
- c) at least one bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide,

wherein the bile acid is represented by the formula:



wherein

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, independently, represent H or OH and

R₅ represents OH, NH-CH₂-CH₂-SO₃H, NH-(CH₂)₃-N⁺(CH₃)₂-(CH₂)₃-SO₃⁻, NH-(CH₂)₃-N⁺(CH₃)₂-CH₂-CHOH-CH₂-SO₃⁻ or NH-CH₂-COOH.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the bile acid salt is the sodium, lithium or potassium salt or the methyl or ethyl ester of cholic acid, glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid, deoxycholic

acid, glycodeoxycholic acid taurodeoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, glycochenodeoxycholic acid, taurochenodeoxycholic acid, lithocholic acid, hyocholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid or a mixture thereof.

Claim 21 (Previously presented): A process for the preparation of a double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, comprising the steps of: (a) reacting, in aqueous solution, (i) at least one metal salt, (ii) with at least one metal cyanide salt, in the presence of (iii) an organic complex ligand, which is not a bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide, to form a suspension; and (b) treating the suspension with at least one bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): A process according to Claim 21, further comprising the steps of: (c) isolating the catalyst from suspension after (b); (d) washing the isolated catalyst; and (e) drying the isolated catalyst.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): A process for the production of a polyether polyol by polyaddition of an alkylene oxide onto a starter compound containing active hydrogen atoms in which the polyaddition of alkylene oxide is conducted in the presence of the double-metal cyanide catalyst of Claim 12.

Claim 24 (Cancelled).

Claim 25 (Previously presented): A double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 12, wherein the double-metal cyanide catalyst is used for the production of a polyether polyol by polyaddition of an alkylene oxide onto a starter compound having active hydrogen atoms.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 19, further comprising water and/or one or more water soluble metal salts.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 19, wherein the double-metal cyanide compound is zinc hexacyanocobaltate (III).

Claim 28 (Currently amended): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 19, wherein the organic complex ligand comprises an alcohol, aldehydes, ~~ketone~~ketone, ether, ester, amide, urea, nitrile, sulfide and/or a mixture thereof.

Claim 29 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 19, wherein the organic complex ligand is tert-butanol.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 19, wherein the bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 80 wt.%, based on the amount of finished double-metal cyanide catalyst.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): The double-metal cyanide catalyst according to Claim 19, wherein the bile acid, bile acid salt, bile acid ester or bile acid amide is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 40 wt.%, based on the amount of finished double-metal cyanide catalyst.